

Claims

1. A software site license system comprising:
 - a client site having a target hardware device;
 - a virtual warehouse website comprising a personal inventory of intangible items for said client site including a plurality of licensable components purchased for said target hardware device;
 - a license sales site placing said intangible items in said virtual warehouse and generating a software site license comprising said licensable components for said target hardware device; and
 - a programming workstation receiving said software site license from said virtual warehouse for said target device.
2. The software site license system of claim 1, wherein said programming workstation receives an electronic file transfer comprising said license.
3. The software site license system of claim 1, wherein said programming workstation stores a copy of said software site license.
4. The software site license system of claim 1, wherein said virtual warehouse comprises a multi-password protected website comprising entry of a password unique to said client site and an ID unique to said target hardware device.
5. The software site license system of claim 4, further comprising a priority level of access to said virtual warehouse.
6. The software site license system of claim 1, wherein said programming workstation displays said licensable components for confirmation from a user prior to said license sales site generating said software site license.
7. The software site license system of claim 1, wherein said license sales site receives a purchase order from said client site comprising said target hardware device and in response to said order, said license sales site establishes said virtual warehouse for said client site and places said licensable components for said target hardware device in said virtual warehouse.
8. The software site license system of claim 1, wherein said software site license comprises a master license for multiple target devices.

9. The software site license system of claim 1 further comprising:
- a representative of said client site; and
 - a purchase order prepared by said representative and received at said license sales site, said order comprising said target hardware device,
 - said representative having said programming workstation and installing said license to said target device prior to delivering said target to said client site.

10. A method for generating a software site license, said method comprising:
- marking a hardware unit with at least one distinctive identifier and electronically associating one of said identifiers to an end-user purchasing said hardware unit;
 - establishing a virtual warehouse uniquely for said end-user, said virtual warehouse configured to retain a personal intangible inventory for said end-user comprising a plurality of licensable components intended for said hardware unit;
 - associating one of said identifiers to said licensable components in said virtual warehouse;
 - displaying said personal inventory;
 - receiving, from said end-user, a selection of said licensable components for said hardware unit;
 - assembling said licensable components intended for said hardware unit to form a software site license and retaining said license on said virtual warehouse until a request for transmission of said license is received; and
 - upon said request, transmitting said license from said virtual warehouse.
11. The method of claim 10 further comprising reviewing said selection from said end-user and verifying said selection provides a minimum required software site license for said hardware unit.
12. The method of claim 11 further comprising suggesting additional licensable components for said license prior to assembling said license.
13. The method of claim 10 further comprising verifying a password entered by said end-user as belonging to said end-user and authorized by said end-user to build said license.
14. The method of claim 10 further comprising password-protecting said virtual warehouse so that viewing of said inventory is permitted upon correct entry of an end-user password and at least one of said unique identifiers.
15. The method of claim 10 further comprising displaying said selection of said licensable components intended for said hardware unit for a confirmation from said end-user prior to assembling said license.
16. The method of claim 15 further comprising displaying additional licensable components available for said hardware unit wherein said additional components were not in said selection.

17. The method of claim 10, wherein said transmitting comprises electronically transmitting a data file comprising said license.
18. The method of claim 10, wherein said generating a software site license comprises one of a new license, an upgrade to an existing license, or a transfer of an existing license to a new hardware unit.
19. The method of claim 10, wherein said personal intangible inventory comprises pre-paid for items available for immediate use by said end-user.
20. The method of claim 10, further comprising setting an expiration date on said license.

21. A system for software site licensing comprising:

a license site receiving a purchase order on behalf of a client, said license site establishing a physical hardware component of said order and a corresponding intangible license component of said order;

a physical warehouse receiving said physical component of said order and shipping a hardware component to said client; and

a secure virtual warehouse website created for and viewable by said client, said virtual warehouse receiving said intangible license component of said order as a paid-for item and remaining in said virtual warehouse until a software site license comprising said component is generated by said license site for installation to said hardware component.

22. The system of claim 21 further comprising a dealership receiving said order from said client and sending the order to said license site.

23. The system of claim 21 further comprising a programming workstation coupled to said virtual warehouse and receiving said transmitted software site license into a storage for future upload to said hardware component.

24. The system of claim 21, wherein said license site establishes said intangible license component of said order by determining the minimum standard licensable features needed for said hardware component to properly operate.

25. The system of claim 24, wherein said license site links said minimum standard licensable features to said hardware component and places said standard features in said virtual warehouse created for said client.

26. A process for a vendor site licensing of a hardware component comprising:
- receiving, at the time of manufacture of said hardware component and from a manufacturer, an electronic shipment comprising an unique set of identifiers associated with said hardware component;
 - receiving from a warehouse, a data shipment comprising a physical whereabouts of said hardware component, said data shipment being verified prior to transmission to said vendor by matching said unique set of identifiers with an external code of said hardware component;
 - determining an intangible portion of said order;
 - requesting from said warehouse a physical shipment of said hardware component to an order originator and prior to said physical shipment receiving from said warehouse said external code of said hardware component;
 - creating a virtual warehouse for said order originator and placing said intangible portion of said order therein;
 - associating said intangible portion to said external code, said unique set of identifiers, and said order originator;
 - generating a site license comprising said intangible portion; and
 - providing said site license to said order originator for installation to said hardware component.
27. The process of claim 26 further comprising billing said order originator for said intangible portion of said order after providing said site license for installation.
28. The process of claim 26 further comprising reporting said intangible portion of said order as a consummated sale after providing said site license for installation.
29. The process of claim 26, wherein said hardware component comprises a central processing unit (CPU).
30. The process of claim 26 further comprising verifying a password entered by said order originator as belonging to said originator and authorized by said originator to receive said site license.

31. An online method for software site licensing comprising:
- entering a password/ID to a secure license management website;
 - browsing a personal inventory of licensable components, said inventory comprising a plurality of previously requisitioned items for a particular user;
 - entering an identifier of a licensable device that a software site license is desired for;
 - selecting one or more of said items from said inventory of licensable components to be assembled into said software site license; and
 - requesting transmission of said software site license.
32. The method of claim 31 further comprising receiving said software site license and saving said license at a programming workstation.
33. The method of claim 31 further comprising uploading said software site license to said licensable device.
34. The method of claim 31 further comprising browsing a subset of said personal inventory in response to entering said identifier, said subset being available components for said licensable device.
35. The method of claim 31 further comprising confirming said selection prior to said components being assembled into said license.